

IFW

PATENT  
Docket No. 6666.130

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
BOSS et al. ) Group Art Unit: 2652  
Entitled: "DAMPED DISC DRIVE ASSEMBLY, ) Examiner: Unknown  
AND METHOD FOR DAMPING DISC )  
DRIVE ASSEMBLY" )  
Serial No. 10/698,937 )  
Filed: November 3, 2003 )

Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Applicant hereby submits this Information Disclosure Statement  
under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b) to bring to the attention of the Examiner  
the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449.

Applicant also directs the Examiner's attention to the following co-  
pending application:

10/698,938 to Boss.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three  
months after the filing date but upon information and belief before the  
mailing date of a first office action. Thus, no fee is required.

Should a first Official Action have been issued on the same day as or before the filing date of this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge the petition fee to our Deposit Account No. 500548, accept this paper as a petition, and proceed to consider this Information Disclosure Statement.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is intended to be in full compliance with the rules, but should the Examiner find any part of its required content to have been omitted, prompt notice to that effect is earnestly solicited, along with additional time under Rule 97(f) to enable Applicant to comply fully.

Consideration of the foregoing and enclosures plus return of a copy of the herewith Form PTO 1449 with the Examiner's initials in the left column per MPEP 609 along with an early action on the merits of this application are earnestly.

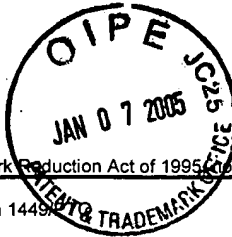
Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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January 5, 2005

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Substitute for form 1449

**Complete if Known****INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Sheet 1 of 3

Application Number	10/698,937
Filing Date	November 3, 2003
First Named Inventor	Boss
Art Unit	2652
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	6666.130

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- 3,640,836	02-08-1972	Oberst et al.	
		US- 4,412,864	11-01-1983	Kurashige et al.	
		US- 4,447,493	05-08-1984	Driscoll et al.	
		US- 4,742,107	05-03-1988	Statz	
		US- 4,822,834	04-18-1989	Blevins	
		US- 4,838,939	06-13-1989	Kanda et al.	
		US- 4,859,523	08-22-1989	Endoh et al.	
		US- 4,942,219	07-17-1990	Yatsuka et al.	
		US- 4,959,189	09-25-1990	Rohrbacher et al.	
		US- 4,965,037	10-23-1990	Weaver et al.	
		US- 5,009,821	04-23-1991	Weaver	
		US- 5,087,491	02-11-1992	Barrett	
		US- 5,203,435	04-20-1993	Dolgin	
		US- 5,229,216	07-20-1993	Watanabe et al.	
		US- 5,262,232	11-16-1993	Wilfong et al.	
		US-			
		US- 5,288,813	02-22-1994	Hirakouchi et al.	
		US- 5,342,465	08-30-1994	Bronowicki et al.	
		US- 5,356,715	10-18-1994	Levine et al.	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

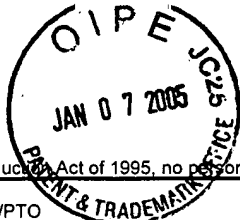
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> ~ Number <sup>4</sup> ~ Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Sheet 2

of 3

**Complete if Known**

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		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- 5,362,572	11-08-1994	Hamada et al.	
		US- 5,368,914	11-29-1994	Barrett	
		US- 5,411,810	05-02-1995	Hirakouchi et al.	
		US- 5,420,170	05-30-1995	Lutter et al.	
		US- 5,507,477	04-16-1996	Manning et al.	
		US- 5,540,173	07-30-1996	Tucker et al.	
		US- 5,578,680	11-26-1996	Ando et al.	
		US- 5,609,703	03-11-1997	Hamada et al.	
		US- 5,800,888	09-01-1998	Yasumoto et al.	
		US- 5,833,320	11-10-1998	Kaneko et al.	
		US- 5,842,686	12-01-1998	Hansen et al.	
		US- 5,851,327	12-22-1998	Landin	
		US- 5,858,521	01-12-1999	Okuda et al.	
		US- 5,916,954	06-29-1999	Bohn et al.	
		US- 5,918,564	07-06-1999	Ohtsuka et al.	
		US- 5,939,179	08-17-1999	Yano et al.	
		US- 5,945,643	08-31-1999	Casser	
		US- 5,965,249	10-12-1999	Sutton et al.	
		US- 5,984,043	11-16-1999	Ruhe et al.	

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